



YEP. WE'RE TAKING MY SLED AND MOVING TO THE YUKON.

MEERON



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# Doing Life with Your Adult Children

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For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice. Genesis 18:19

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this lesson is not...

- fool proof tips to raising kids in today's world
- the sure-fire way for never making mistakes and having everything turn out perfectly
- Singling a family out as the only one with challenges

*RATHER, IT IS TAKING INTENTIONAL STEPS TO  
DEVELOP GOD-HONORING RELATIONSHIPS*



## *What We Teach – Family*

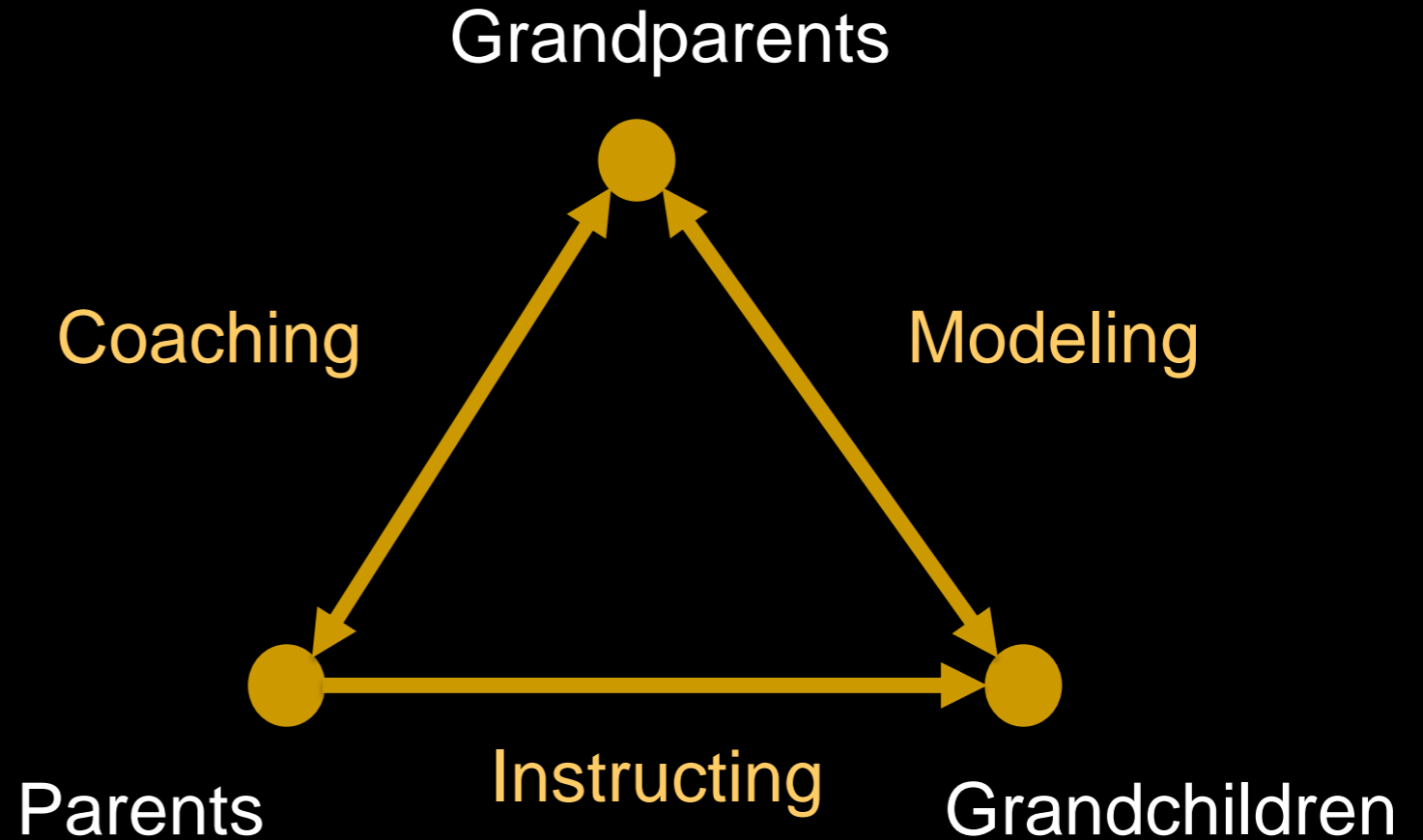
We believe that God created and blessed the family as the foundation of society.

Children are a gift from God and are fully human from conception.

Parents are to train their children by modeling a godly life, teaching them the Scriptures, disciplining them in love, and providing them a resource of wisdom and counsel.

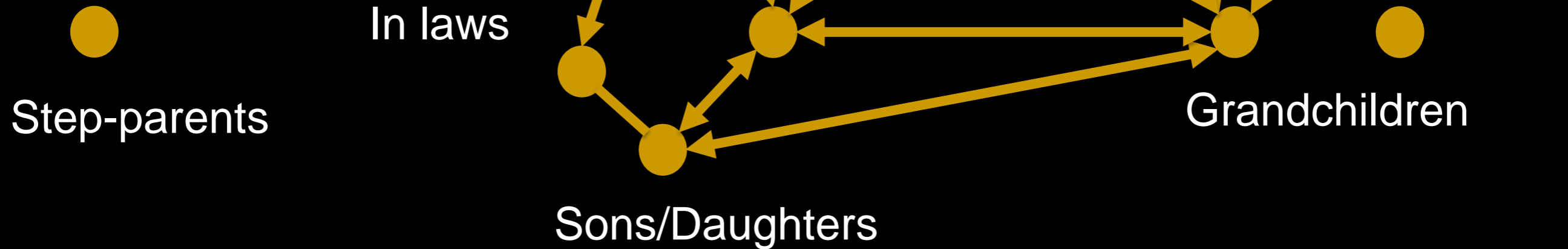
# The Family Trinity

A three generation unit built around three different but complementary relationships.



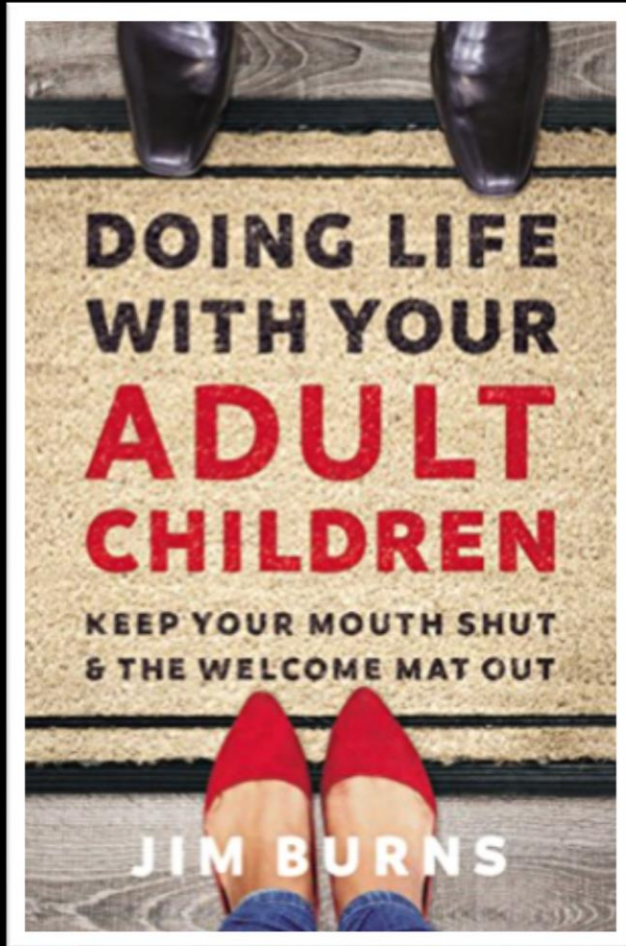
# The “Real” Family Trinity (in process)

Often a complex, multi-generation and non-nuclear unit built around many different and evolving relationships.





## Key Reference



- Dr. Jim Burns
  - Parenting Adult Children
    - [\(108\) Doing Life with Your Adult Children: Keep Your Mouth Shut and the Welcome Mat Out -- WEBINAR - YouTube](#)
    - Raising responsible adults
  
  - Also:
    - [\(359\) How to Parent Adult Children with Dr. Jim Burns & Host Krista Gilbert - YouTube](#)
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# Nine Principles

Doing Life with Your Adult Children



*You no doubt will experience bewilderment when your grown kids violate your values or live differently from how they were raised, but your goal must remain the same: to help your children transition to responsible adulthood.*

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# You're Fired!

**PRINCIPLE 1: YOUR  
ROLE AS THE  
PARENT MUST  
CHANGE**

- Be encouraging but not intrusive
- Be caring, but do not enable dependency
- Invest in your emotional, physical and spiritual health
- Have serious fun

*A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.*

*Proverbs 17:22*

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# Keep Your Mouth Shut and the Welcome Mat Out

**PRINCIPLE 2:**  
UNSOLICITED  
ADVICE IS USUALLY  
TAKEN AS CRITICISM

- Trust that experience is a better teacher than advice
- Give respect: No adult wants to be told what to do
- You are now a mentor and a coach
- Your words have the power to bless and to curse

*My son, if your heart is wise,  
My own heart also will be glad;  
And my inmost being will rejoice  
When your lips speak what is right.  
Proverbs 17:22*

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# Why is it Taking My Kid So Long to Grow Up?

- Emerging Adults
- Responding to Cringe Factors
- Owning Your Faith

PRINCIPLE 3: YOU  
CAN'T IGNORE YOUR  
CHILD'S CULTURE

*Jim's mom parented and related to the younger  
generation with a sense of AWE.  
AFFECTION – WARMTH - ENCOURAGEMENT*

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# How to Raise an Entitled Adult Child...or Not

- Are you enabling or helping?

PRINCIPLE 4: THEY  
WILL NEVER KNOW  
HOW FAR THE TOWN  
IS IF YOU CARRY  
THEM ON YOUR  
BACK

*“Enabling behavior, simply put, shields people from experiencing the full impact and consequences of their behavior.”  
(p. 74).*

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# A Failure to Launch

- Land the Helicopter
- The Importance of Individuation

PRINCIPLE 5: YOUR  
JOB IS TO MOVE  
THEM FROM  
DEPENDENCE TO  
INDEPENDENCE

*For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both*

*Genesis 2:24 – Mt 19:5 – Eph 5:31*

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# When Your Grown Child Violates Your Values

PRINCIPLE 6: YOU  
CAN'T WANT IT  
MORE THAN THEY  
WANT IT

- When things go off YOUR rails...  
*“Does your son/daughter know you love them, and do they know how you feel about their decision?”*
- Don't be a one-topic parent  
*“Since she already knows how you feel, take her to dinner once a week and talk about other things.”*

*IT MAY BE TOO LATE FOR PREVENTION, BUT IT IS NEVER TOO LATE FOR REDEMPTION. (p. 109)*

# The High Cost of Money

**PRINCIPLE 7:**  
FINANCIAL  
INDEPENDENCE AND  
RESPONSIBILITY IS  
THE GOAL

- KEEP THE GOAL IN MIND:  
FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND  
INDEPENDENCE
  - TEACH AND TRAIN YOUR KIDS  
ABOUT HEALTHY FINANCIAL  
PRINCIPLES
-



# In-Laws, Stepfamilies, and the Blend

**PRINCIPLE 8: WEAR  
BEIGE AND KEEP  
YOUR MOUTH SHUT**

- Navigating a successful relationship with an in-law or in-law to be:
  - ❑ Don't criticize the in-law
  - ❑ Don't criticize the in-law's parenting
  - ❑ Don't criticize the in-law's treatment of your son or daughter
  - ❑ Don't criticize anything about the in-law.

*IT IS NOT ABOUT YOU, IT'S ABOUT THEM. (p. 143)*

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# It's Party Time with the Grandkids

**PRINCIPLE 9:** BEING  
A GRANDPARENT  
MAY BE YOUR  
LEGACY

- Consider taking Immanuel's Grandparenting with Grace course



## What to Do Next?

- Pray for wisdom about your role
- Get a *Posse* of Kindred Spirits
- Evaluate Options Resources and Services
- Be a Blessing, Give a Blessing
- Be in this for the long haul

*DISCOVER AND SERVE IN YOUR BIBLICAL ROLE*

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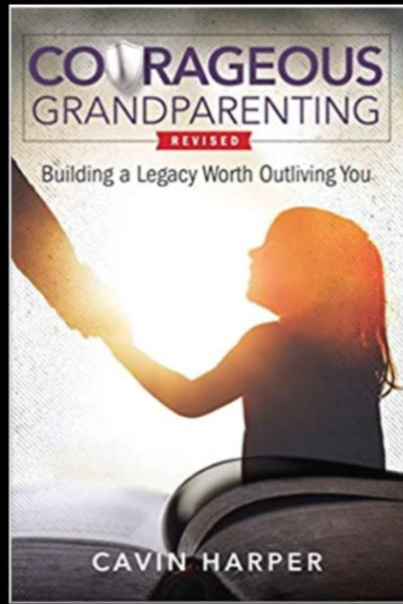
## Level of Celebration

- I celebrate my son/daughter to the world
- I celebrate my son/daughter to them
- I don't celebrate my son/daughter outwardly
- My son/daughter don't think I celebrate them at all

What is your goal for celebration in the next 90 days?

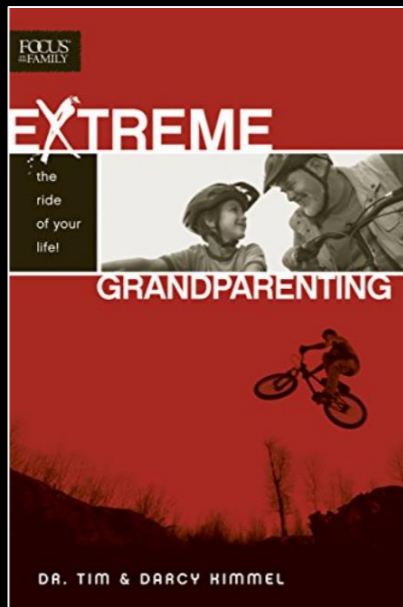
# Courageous Grandparenting

*Building a Legacy Worth Outliving You*  
By Cavin Harper



Chapters  
7 & 8

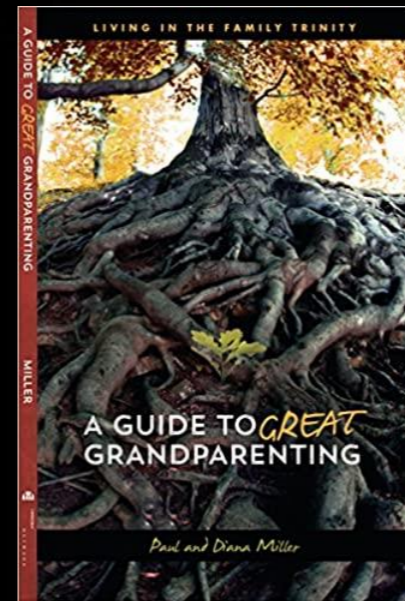
Grandparenting Resources that cover this topic across multiple chapters



# Extreme Grandparenting

*The Ride of Your Life!*  
By Tim & Darcy Kimmel

Chapters  
13 - 15



# A Guide to Great Grandparenting

By Paul and Diana Miller

Chapters  
4 - 8



משפחה

miš·pā·ḥā(h)

extended family, clan

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## The Importance of the Family

From Genesis through Revelation we see the concept of a family woven within the history and redemption of humankind. This idea is captured throughout the progressive dispensations of God's relationships of human beings to himself. It underscores *the family* as a centerpiece for God's redemptive plan.